

1 and 20 of the instant application that were discussed in the Interview. More particularly, the amendments proposed herein are offered to comply with a request made by the Examiner in the Interview to reconfigure the language of the "elastomeric means" clause to "invok[e] the 112 6th paragraph" as indicated by the Examiner in the "Substance of Interview" portion of the "Interview Summary" (Form PTOL-413) memorializing the Interview. It is believed such amendments place the claims in condition for allowance.

This Request for Continued Examination is being filed pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.114(d) which states: "If an applicant files a request for continued examination under this section after appeal, but prior to a decision on the appeal, it will be treated as a request to withdraw the appeal and to reopen prosecution of the application before the examiner."

Submitted herewith is a request to charge USPTO Deposit Account No. 503-443 the amount of \$405.00 to cover the fee for this Request for Continued Examination (37 CFR §1.17(e)).

Listing of the Claims begin on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.